



# Child and Family Services Reviews

## Nebraska 2017

### Platte/Colfax Exit Conference

# Agenda

- Overview of Child and Family Services Reviews
  - Process
  - CFSR Outcomes
  - Systemic Factors
- Case Review Findings
- Next Steps

# Child and Family Services Reviews

- Collaborative effort between federal and state governments
- Promote continuous quality improvement in child welfare systems nationally
- Evaluate state performance relative to federal requirements and state Child and Family Services Plan
- Identify both the strengths and areas needing improvement in state child welfare programs



# Child and Family Services Reviews

- States that do not meet initial standards develop an action-oriented 2-year Program Improvement Plan
- The Children's Bureau works to assist states in enhancing their capacity to help children and families achieve positive outcomes through ongoing technical assistance support

# CFSR Process

CFSRs assess child welfare outcomes and systemic functioning using:

- Statewide Assessment
- Case-level reviews
  - Case record and interviews
- Interviews with key state stakeholders and partners

# CFSR Outcomes

- Two Safety Outcomes
- Two Permanency Outcomes
- Three Well-Being Outcomes

# CFSR Outcomes

- **Safety Outcome 1:** Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.
- **Safety Outcome 2:** Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.
- **Permanency Outcome 1:** Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.
- **Permanency Outcome 2:** The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.

# CFSR Outcomes

- **Well-Being Outcome 1:** Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.
- **Well-Being Outcome 2:** Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.
- **Well-Being Outcome 3:** Children receive adequate services to meet their physical health needs.



# Determining Substantial Conformity

## Seven Child and Family Outcomes

**2 Safety  
Outcomes**

**3 OSRI  
Items**

**2 Permanency  
Outcomes**

**8 OSRI  
Items**

**3 Well-Being  
Outcomes**

**7 OSRI  
Items**

# CFSR Systemic Factors

- Statewide Information System
- Case Review System
- Quality Assurance System
- Staff and Provider Training
- Service Array and Resource Development
- Agency Responsiveness to the Community
- Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention

# Determining Substantial Conformity Seven Systemic Factors



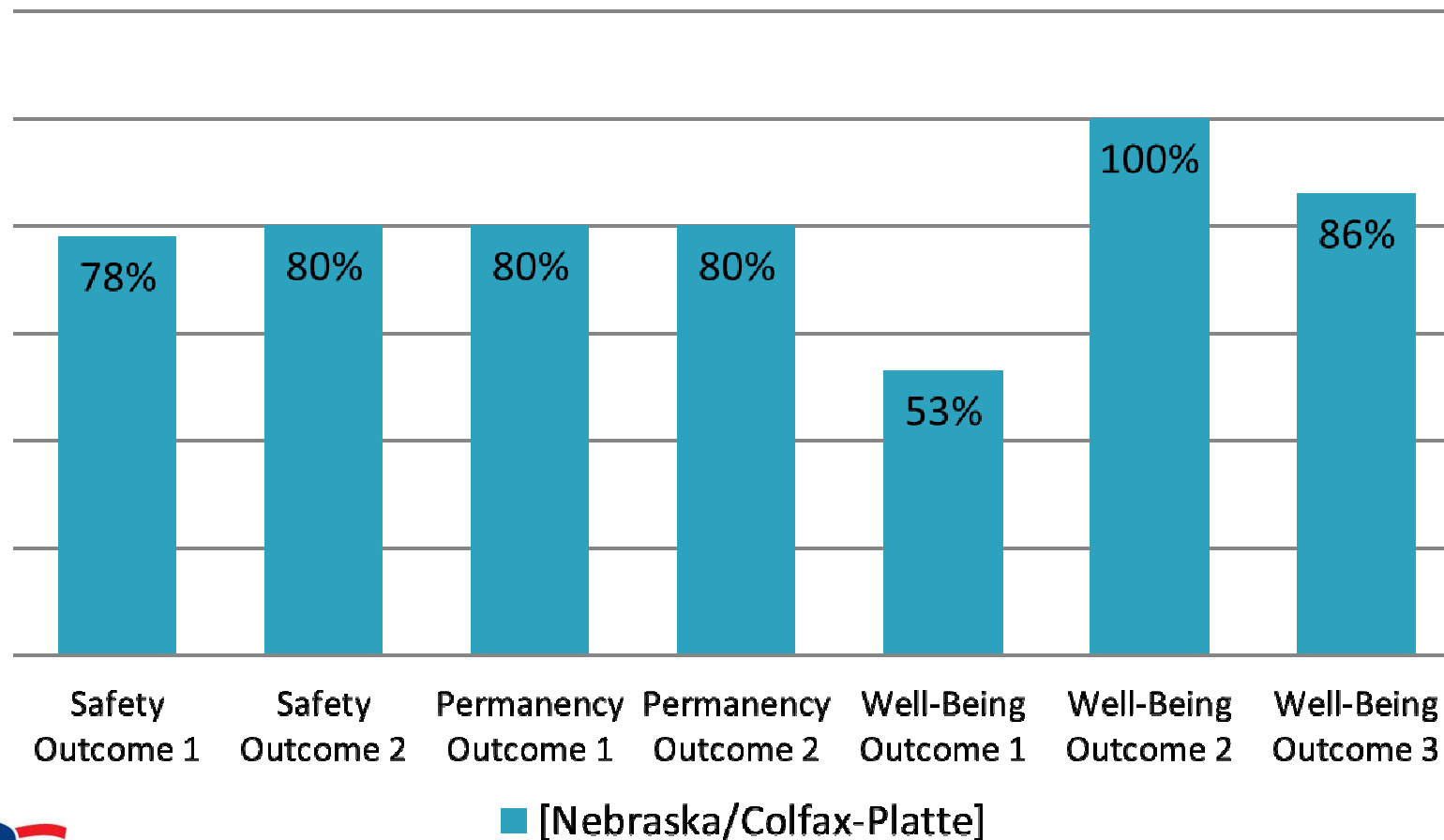
# CFSR Case Review

- 65 cases were reviewed using the federal Onsite Review Instrument (OSRI)
  - 25 in-home cases
  - 40 foster care cases
- Cases reviewed in four sites/teams

# Preliminary Case Review Findings

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## % of Cases Substantially Achieved



# Closer Look at Findings

- Outcome and Item Ratings
- Themes
  - Strengths
  - Areas Needing Improvement

# Safety Outcome 1

Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.

## **78% Safety Outcome 1**

**OSRI Item 1:** *Timeliness of Initiating Investigations of Reports of Child Maltreatment*

- 78% of 9 applicable cases rated as a Strength



# Safety Outcome 1

## Key Strengths

- Initiated and made face-to-face contact timely in most cases, particularly Priority 1

# Safety Outcome 1

## Areas for Improvement

- Agency did not meet timeframe for Priority 2
- Insufficient justification for exception

# Safety Outcome 2

Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

## 80% Safety Outcome 2

**OSRI Item 2:** *Services to Family to Protect Child(ren) in the Home and Prevent Removal or Re-Entry Into Foster Care*

- 100% of 5 cases rated as a Strength
  - 100% of 4 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
  - 100% of 1 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

# Safety Outcome 2 cont.

## **OSRI Item 3:** *Risk Assessment and Safety Management*

- 80% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
  - 90% of 10 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
  - 60% of 5 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

# Safety Outcome 2

## Key Strengths

- Appropriate safety services were provided immediately
- Thorough assessment for risk and safety
- SDM tool
- Good use of safety plans

# Safety Outcome 2

## Areas for Improvement

- Loss of focus on safety due to child's mental health needs
- Lack of thorough assessment prior to discharge from care

# Permanency Outcome 1

Children have safety and stability in their living situations.

## **80% Permanency Outcome 1**

### **OSRI Item 4:** *Stability of Foster Care Placement*

- 100% of 10 cases rated as a Strength

### **OSRI Item 5:** *Permanency Goal for Child*

- 90% of 10 cases rated as a Strength

### **OSRI Item 6:** *Achieving Reunification, Guardianship, Adoption, or Other Planned Permanent Living Arrangement*

- 80% of 10 cases rated as a Strength

# Permanency Outcome 1

## Key Strengths

- All children had 1 placement during PUR
- Timely establishment of goals
- Strong partnership between parents and foster parents
- Family Team Meetings



# Permanency Outcome 1

## Areas for Improvement

- Court not supporting recommendations for concurrent plans
- Untimely change of goals

# Permanency Outcome 2

The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.

## ***80% Permanency Outcome 2***

### ***OSRI Item 7: Placement With Siblings***

- 100% of 6 cases rated as a Strength

### ***OSRI Item 8: Visiting With Parents and Siblings in Foster Care***

- 90% of 10 cases rated as a Strength

# Permanency Outcome 2 Cont.

## **OSRI Item 9:** *Preserving Connections*

- 100% of 10 cases rated as a Strength

## **OSRI Item 10:** *Relative Placement*

- 80% of 10 cases rated as a Strength

## **OSRI Item 11:** *Relationship of Child in Care With Parents*

- 78% of 9 cases rated as a Strength

# Item 11

- 89% of the 9 applicable cases concerted efforts were made to promote and support the relationship with the **mother**
- 80% of the 5 applicable cases concerted efforts were made to promote and support the relationship with the **father**

# Permanency Outcome 2

## Key Strengths

- Lengthy visits of good quality
- Siblings placed together
- Quality parent/child visits
- Good use of relative and fictive kin placements

# Permanency Outcome 2

## Areas for Improvement

- Lack of effort to locate paternal relatives
- Overcoming barriers to engage parents in relationship building activities

# Well-Being Outcome 1

Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.

## **53% Well-Being Outcome 1**

**OSRI Item 12:** *Needs and Services of Child, Parents, and Foster Parents*

- 67% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
  - 70% of 7 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
  - 60% of 3 applicable In-home Cases rated as a Strength

# Item 12

## ***OSRI Item 12A: Needs Assessment and Services to Children***

- 87% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
  - 90% of 9 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
  - 80% of 4 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength



# Item 12

## ***OSRI Item 12B: Needs Assessment and Services to Parents***

- 67% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
  - 70% of 7 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
  - 60% of 3 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

# Item 12B

- In 86% of 14 applicable cases concerted efforts were made to assess and address the needs of **mothers**
- In 69% of 13 applicable cases concerted efforts both to assess and address the needs of **fathers**

# Item 12

## ***OSRI Item 12C: Needs Assessment and Services to Foster Parents***

- 90% of 9 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength

# Well-Being Outcome 1 cont.

## ***OSRI Item 13: Child and Family Involvement in Case Planning***

- 80% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
  - 70% of 7 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
  - 100% of 5 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

# Item 13

- In 100% of 8 applicable cases – **children** were involved in case planning
- In 93% of 14 applicable cases – **mothers** were involved in case planning
- In 77% of 13 applicable cases – **fathers** were involved in case planning

# Well-Being Outcome 1 Cont.

## **OSRI Item 14:** *Caseworker Visits With Child*

- 93% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
  - 100% of 10 applicable foster care cases rated as a Strength
  - 80% of 4 applicable in-home cases rated as a Strength

# Well-Being Outcome 1 Cont.

## **OSRI Item 15:** *Caseworker Visits With Parents*

- 73% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
  - 70% of 7 applicable foster care cases rated as a Strength
  - 80% of 4 applicable in-home cases rated as a Strength

# Item 15

- 86% of 14 applicable cases both the frequency and quality of visits with **mother** were sufficient
- 77% of 13 applicable cases both the frequency and quality of visits with **father** were sufficient



# Well-Being Outcome 1

## Key Strengths

- Comprehensive assessments for child, parents and foster parents
- Strong use of Family Support Workers
- Crisis Navigator for Family Team Meetings
- Quality caseworker visits
- Full involvement in individualized case planning

# Well-Being Outcome 1

## Areas for Improvement

- Challenges involving incarcerated parents
- Services assessed but no provision
- Lack of engagement with fathers

# Well-Being Outcome 2

Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.

## ***100% Well-Being Outcome 2***

### ***OSRI Item 16: Educational Needs of the Child***

- 100% of 10 cases rated as a Strength
  - 100% of 7 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
  - 100% of 3 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

# Well-Being Outcome 2

## Key Strengths

- Assessments conducted and followed up with services identified
- Informative reports provided by family support worker

# Well-Being Outcome 2

## Areas for Improvement

- N/A

# Well-Being Outcome 3

Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

**86% Well-Being Outcome 3**

**OSRI Item 17:** *Physical Health of the Child*

- 83% of 12 cases rated as a Strength
  - 90% of 9 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
  - 50% of 2 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

# Well-Being Outcome 3 cont.

## **OSRI Item 18:** *Mental/Behavioral Health of the Child*

- 90% of 10 cases rated as a Strength
  - 100% of 6 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
  - 75% of 4 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

# Well-Being Outcome 3

## Key Strengths

- Medical issues quickly addressed
- No issues with seeking dental treatment
- No wait-lists for mental health treatment
- Sufficient medication monitoring



# Well-Being Outcome 3

## Areas for Improvement

- Some lack of follow up with medical care

# Next Steps

# Next Steps: Program Improvement Plan (PIP)

- Final Report is issued to the State
- PIP due to Children's Bureau within 90 days of receiving Final Report and determination of nonconformity
- Continued collaborative effort between the State and Children's Bureau to develop and monitor Nebraska's PIP
- Continued collaboration with partners and families in development of PIP

# Stages of PIP development

1. Analyze data
2. Explore possible interventions
3. Finalize interventions
4. Map out implementation plan for interventions
5. Measurement Plan
6. Reporting Structure

# Program Improvement Plan

- Implement plan over 2 years with additional year to monitor data measures
- Safety interventions must be prioritized and addressed in less than 2 years
- State must include & complete key activities to benchmark progress (most significant action steps)
- State must include and achieve measurable progress on certain items

# Thank you!